What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

receiving an alpha value, wherein the alpha value indicates how a video signal and a graphics signal are to be combined; and

adjusting a flicker filter based upon the alpha value.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

comparing the alpha value to a predetermined threshold value to arrive at a result; and

adjusting a filter level of the flicker filter in response to the result.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising:

subtracting the alpha value from the threshold value to arrive at a second result.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

dividing the second result by an alpha step value to arrive at a third result; and

adjusting the filter level based on the third result.

5. The method of claim 2, further comprising:

turning off the flicker filter when the predetermined threshold value exceeds the alpha value.

6. The method of claim 2, further comprising:

adjusting the filter level when the alpha value exceeds the predetermined threshold value.

7. The method of claim 2, further comprising:

turning off the flicker filter when the graphics image displayed with the video image is substantially transparent.

8. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

turning off the flicker filter when the graphics image displayed with the video image has an alpha value that is below the predetermined threshold value.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

evaluating the graphics signal to produce a threshold value;

comparing the alpha value to the threshold value to arrive at a result; and

adjusting a filter level of the flicker filter in response to the result.

Sub a2

10. ~~A system comprising:~~

~~a controller to associate an alpha value with a signal to be displayed; and~~

~~a processor coupled to the controller for executing a software program to adjust a flicker filter based upon the alpha value.~~

11. The system of claim 10, wherein the flicker filter operates at a plurality of levels.

Sub A3

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the software program further:

compares the alpha value to a predetermined threshold value to produce a result; and

adjusts one of the plurality of levels of the flicker filter based upon the result.

13. The system of claim 10, wherein the signal is a mixed video and graphics signal.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the alpha value specifies how strongly the graphics signal is to be displayed.

15. The system of claim 12, wherein the flicker filter is turned off when the predetermined threshold value exceeds the alpha value.

Sub A4

16. The system of claim 11, wherein the software program further:

evaluates the signal to produce a threshold value;

compares the alpha value to the threshold value to produce a result; and

adjusts one of the plurality of levels of the flicker filter based upon the result.

17. An article comprising a medium storing instructions that, upon execution, enable a processor-based system to:

receive an alpha value, wherein the alpha value indicates how a video signal and a graphics signal are to be combined; and

adjust a flicker filter based upon the alpha value.

Sub a5

18. The article of claim 17, further storing instructions that, upon execution, enable a processor-based system to:

compare the alpha value to a predetermined threshold value to arrive at a result; and

adjust a filter level of the flicker filter based on the result.

19. The article of claim 18, further storing instructions that, upon execution, enable a processor-based system to subtract the alpha value from the threshold value to arrive at a second result.

20. The article of claim 19, further storing instructions that, upon execution, enable a processor-based system to:

divide the second result by an alpha step value to arrive at a third result; and

adjust the filter level based on the third result.

21. The article of claim 17, further storing instructions that, upon execution, enable a processor-based system to:

turn off the flicker filter when the predetermined threshold value exceeds the alpha value.

22. The article of claim 17, further storing instructions that, upon execution, enable a processor-based system to:

adjust the filter level when the alpha value exceeds the predetermined threshold value.